

**Claims**

1. A method of operating broadcast or multicast apparatus, the method comprising:

5 controlling the apparatus to broadcast or multicast, in respect of one or more announcements on a lower level and relating to a category of an information service, data indicating a category to which the announcements relate, and data indicating the quantity of announcement information transmitted in respect of the lower level.

10 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the data is broadcast or multicast in respect of one or more announcements on an immediately lower level.

15 3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising controlling the apparatus to broadcast or multicast information identifying a location of access of the lower level announcement information.

4. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising controlling the apparatus to broadcast or multicast information identifying a timeout value.

20 5. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising controlling the apparatus to broadcast or multicast information identifying a transport format of the lower level announcements.

25 6. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the broadcast or multicast is an Internet Protocol datacast transmission using time-slicing.

30 7. An information service broadcaster or multicaster arranged to produce for broadcasting or multicasting data indicating a category to which one or more announcements on a lower level and relating to information service belong and data indicating the quantity of announcement information transmitted in respect of the lower level announcements.

8. An information service broadcaster or multicaster as claimed in claim 7, in which the announcement data relates to one or more announcements on an immediately lower level.

5 9. A method of operating a receiver (30), the method comprising:  
receiving via a receiver (34) announcement data indicating a category to  
which one or more announcements on a lower level and relating to an information  
service belong, and quantity data indicating the quantity of announcement  
information transmitted in respect of the lower level announcements; and  
10 controlling the receiver to receive announcement data for a period of time  
dependent at least in part on the quantity data.

10. A method as claimed in claim 9, in which the announcement data relates to one or more announcements on an immediately lower level.

15 11. A method as claimed in claim 9 or claim 10 in which the controlling step includes directing the receiver to a location received as part of a relevant higher level announcement.

20 12. A method as claimed in any of claims 9 to 11, further comprising receiving in connection with the higher level announcement information indicating a timeout value, and controlling the receiver to cease receiving announcement data for a period of time dependent the timeout value, and to subsequently resume receiving announcement data.

25 13. A receiver (30) for receiving announcement data indicating a category to which one or more announcements on a lower layer and relating to an information service belong and quantity data indicating the quantity of announcement information transmitted in respect of the lower level announcements; and arranged  
30 to receive announcement data for a period of time dependent at least in part on the quantity data.

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14. A receiver as claimed in claim 13, in which the announcement data relates to one or more announcements on an immediately lower level.

15. A receiver as claimed in claim 13 or claim 14 which is arranged to be directed to a location identified by location information data receivable as part of the higher level announcement.

16. A receiver as claimed in any of claims 13 to 15, which is arranged to cease receiving lower level announcement data for a period of time dependent on a timeout value receivable by the receiver, and to resume subsequently receiving information service data.

17. A receiver as claimed in any of claims 13 to 16, which is a portable, battery-powered receiver.

18. A receiver as claimed in any of claims 13 to 17, which is arranged to receive time-sliced Internet Protocol datacast transmissions.

19. A user interface, useable with an electronic program or service guide, the user interface comprising:

a receiver module arranged to receive data indicating a category to which one or more announcements on a lower level and relating to an information service belong, and quantity data indicating the quantity of announcement information transmitted in respect of the lower level announcements, and

a display module arranged to display a number of category options, which options are selectable by a user, the number of category options being dependent at least in part on the quantity data.

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